

# CARTSNEWS

*The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society*

ISSUE #21

February 2009

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Eight people attended the November CARTS meeting in Statesville. As is always the case your editor was able to add to his collection; and sell a few items. And there was also good conversation with lots of knowledge exchanged. Does it get much better?

Treasurer Bob King reported that we finished the year with \$273.21 in the bank. If you happen to be among those who have not yet paid dues, you will find a reminder with this newsletter. Please pay now so that you'll continue to get the newsletter.

Our next meeting will be in **Hendersonville on May 30**. We will be at the **Ramada Limited on Sugarloaf Road which is off Highway 64 East, at exit 49 of I-26**. Detailed directions to the location will be given in the May newsletter.

### Contact Information:

**Don Bailey**  
PO Box 1272  
Etowah, NC 28729  
e-mail: [ELADON@BRINET.COM](mailto:ELADON@BRINET.COM)

**Tony Chibbaro**  
PO Box 420  
Prosperity, SC 29217  
e-mail: [CHIBBARO@MINDSPRING.COM](mailto:CHIBBARO@MINDSPRING.COM)

**Bob King**  
709 Cardinal Dr.  
Brevard, NC 28712  
e-mail: [TOKENADDICT@CITCOM.NET](mailto:TOKENADDICT@CITCOM.NET)

Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know!  
**Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well, another year is upon us. It's hard to believe that we're almost through the first decade of the 21st century, but here we are. I hope that 2008 was a good one for your collecting pursuits, if not your 401-K. I know that I added about 50 South Carolina trade tokens to my collection. That qualifies as an outstanding year for me. I hope that 2009 proves to be just as good.

The month of February is the start of coin show season in the Carolinas. Coin shows are to be held in Charleston (Feb. 6-8), Charlotte (Feb. 13-15), and Spartanburg (Feb. 27-Mar. 1), as well as a bottle show in Columbia (Feb. 20-21). I hope to see you all at one of those venues.

Our treasurer has reminded me to make a plea for membership dues. Ten dollars will keep this newsletter coming to you, as well as the opportunity to meet with like-minded collectors at our semi-annual meetings. Please take the time to send a dues check to Bob King today. His address appears opposite.

Also note that CARTS will be hosting our usual spring meeting in May. See elsewhere in this issue for details.

Regards,  
Tony Chibbaro  
President, of CARTS

# UNION

## SOUTH CAROLINA WANTED

### POSTCARDS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY

**William M. Graham**  
**106 Hidden Hills Road, Union, SC 29379**  
**864-427-9560** **864-429-1260**

#### **"Venice in Carolina"**

**Tony Chibbaro**

Many of you may know of my interest in the Charleston Exposition – the would-be world's fair held in Charleston, SC in 1901 and 1902. While I have many different pieces of exnumia issued and sold at the fair, including admission tickets, employee passes, so-called dollars, award medals, encased cents, elongated cents, and celluloid badges, I have never encountered any trade tokens – that is until recently. I had long thought the chances were high that some type of “good for” token would eventually come to light, perhaps an admission token or even a ride token issued by the miniature railroad which snaked its way over the grounds. And I believe I was proved right by a pair of tokens I recently acquired from a Virginia coin dealer. While I cannot prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that the tokens were used in Charleston, I can show that they were issued by one of the Midway concessions that itself moved

from exposition to exposition and set up for business at the fair in Charleston.



**Photograph of gondolas and canal  
at Venice in America concession,  
1901 Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, NY**

Venice in America was one of a number of “ethnically-oriented” concessions which plied their wares at the expositions of the early 20th century. Two others, among many, were Fair Japan and the Streets of Cairo. All three featured architecture reminiscent of their particular geographical

namesake, as well as employees dressed in regional garb, and, of course, ethnic cuisine. The Venice in America concession also featured gondola rides meant to remind fairgoers of the picturesque canals of the quaint Italian city. The concession had a large presence at the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, NY as well as at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. The Charleston Exposition opened right on the heels of the Pan-American Expo and many of the concession owners at the Buffalo venue simply packed up and moved to the more southerly clime when things closed down in New York. Venice in America made the move to Charleston, and so did Fair Japan, the Streets of Cairo, and Roltair's Darkness & Dawn.



**Photograph of Venice in America Restaurant and employees,  
1901-02 Charleston Exposition, Charleston, SC**

Pictured below is one of two tokens I recently obtained from the Venice in America concession. The second token (not pictured) is similar in style and inscription but features a 10 (cents) denomination on a 24mm aluminum planchet.



**VENICE IN AMERICA / 25 / RESTAURANT // 25 –  
R, Al, 29mm.**

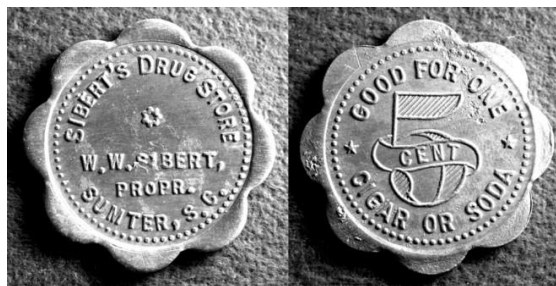
I believe the pair of tokens was most probably issued for use in Buffalo at the restaurant that was part of the Venice in American concession at the Pan-American Expo. However, I also believe that

it is likely they were used subsequently in Charleston. I stated earlier that the Venice in America concession moved from Buffalo to Charleston at the closing of the Pan-American Expo on November 2, 1901. It is not a long stretch of the imagination to believe that the tokens made the trip to Charleston along with all the other restaurant paraphernalia for the opening there just one month later. It sure would be nice for some relic hunter to dig up one of these tokens in downtown Charleston. That would certainly prove me right about matters, but until then I think I've made a pretty good argument for their inclusion in a collection of South Carolina tokens or Charleston Expo memorabilia.

## NEW FINDS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

**Tony Chibbaro**

Two new finds comprise the entries into this issue's column, both from drug stores and both courtesy of eBay. The first one hails from Sumter and appeared on eBay back in the late fall. The inscription on the 29mm scalloped aluminum token reads: SIBERT'S DRUG STORE / W.W. SIBERT, / PROPR. / SUMTER, S.C. // GOOD FOR ONE / 5 / CENT (on ribbon across numeral) / CIGAR OR SODA. It is the first token known from this issuer.



W.W. Sibert first appeared in the mercantile directories in 1905, in partnership with G.M. Sibert, operating Sibert's Drug Store. That was the only year that G.M. Sibert appeared in the listings. W.W. Sibert is shown as a sole proprietor in all subsequent years. The venture was certainly a long-lived business, as listings for the drug store appeared well into the 1950s. (I would estimate that the token was issued around 1910, however.) It is interesting to note that the last name

occasionally appeared as Siebert or Seibert, but usually the spelling was the same as that on the token.

The second token featured in this issue is also the only example presently known from its issuer. It appeared on eBay in January of 2009. The inscription on the 24mm brass token is as follows: SPRINGFIELD DRUG CO. / SPRINGFIELD, / S.C. // GOOD FOR / 5¢ / DRINK OR CIGAR.



The Springfield Drug Company was in existence from 1909 through 1921. It was not in business as long as the Sibert's Drug Store token described above, but a dozen years is respectable for a small town which always featured two or three drug stores in competition with each other. In fact, competitive business practices may be the very reason the token was issued in the first place. Drug store soda tokens were often given away as a type of “loss leader”, a means to entice potential customers to come into the store and, while there enjoying the free soda, have an opportunity to peruse and hopefully purchase other merchandise. Tokens from two other drug stores in Springfield are also known – Clark’s Pharmacy and Clark & Jumper’s Drug Store.

**I DON'T HAVE A  
NICKLE, BUT I'VE GOT  
A DUKIE**

**Lamar Bland**

John Jordan often heard such an exclamation as a 7 year old boy in Saxapahaw Mill village in 1943 North Carolina. The “Dukie” would have looked like the one below, perhaps just as weathered, since it had probably been carried in the bib pocket of overalls.



**In Red on Yellow background the “Dukie” reads:  
GOOD FOR 5 CENTS IN TRADE AT SAXAPAHAW  
STORE COMPANY**

The child was excited because the “Dukie” could be used as cash for treats in the Saxapahaw Mill store. Or, if the child were lucky enough to be driven into Burlington, 15 miles up a country road, it could be used in Sellars Department Store, or even at a movie theater. The child may not have known why he called it a “Dukie.” Even today four of the men who remember them from that time cannot explain the source of the name. Those men are John and Ben Jordan, sons of mill owner B. Everett Jordan, and Ben Bulla, treasurer for the company for many years. The fourth man is Kent Miller, the 91 year old owner of this “Dukie”, who worked in the store.



**Kent Miller stands at the front entrance of the  
original Saxapahaw Store building**

“Dukie’s” were sold in \$1 packets in this building – to mill workers, by store owner/operators JR (“Dad”) Baber and daughter Connie Baber Williams. They could buy an assortment of things needed by mill families: work clothes, boots, groceries, and other basic goods for the home. They were also used for activities more offensive to “Dad” Baber. When he learned that workers were gambling with them, perhaps in one of the many checkers games played in the village, the

religious Baber reportedly said: “George Washington is on the \$ 1 bill; I don’t want my money used for gambling.”

Exactly when these coupons (formally called scrip) were first introduced is not certain. Ben Jordan believes they were needed locally because there were no banks in Saxapahaw, and because during the Depression few people had cars for banking in Burlington. The need was heightened when those banks began closing during the early 1930’s. Kent Miller remembers seeing them during the six years of his employment from 1937 to 1943. They were no longer needed when economic recovery began after World War II. As John Jordan put it, “If you had money, you didn’t need Dukies.”

The following photograph of Ben and John Jordan shows a wall of the store’s interior where “Dukies” would have been distributed. The Jordans are on either side of the painting showing their father Everett when he was a U.S senator from North Carolina. The other photograph (of three men) pictures Kent Miller, John Jordan, and Ben Bulla, company treasurer beginning in 1940. Bulla subsequently wrote *Textiles and Politics: the Life of B. Everett Jordan*, which provides rich historical detail about the Saxapahaw culture.



**John and Ben Jordan**



**Kent, John, and Ben Bulla**

The Saxapahaw Mill store was typical of the company stores which mill owners across the South built. During the 1930’s, the legal workweek was 60 hours. Working on weekends could be required as well, leaving little time for discretionary shopping. Often, too, the packets of scrip, sold at a small discount, promoted local use. However, the company store played a more dominant role in this village’s life than most because of its remote location. When the mill was built is uncertain, though original operations began when John Newlin, a Quaker, started spinning and weaving here in 1844. The village culture existed on both sides of the Haw River by the time Everett Jordan drove his Ford down a dirt road in 1927 to buy the then run-down operation from White-Williamson and Company. The store building rested on the high side of the river-banks, overlooking the factory buildings beside the Haw. All three are still there today.



**The Brick Store Structure**



**Saxapahaw Mill Buildings beside the Haw**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- Thanks to John Jordan for his enthusiastic help, and for introducing me to Kent and the two Bens.
- Thanks to Jerrie Nall and Kathy Berry, at Textile Heritage Museum in Glencoe, for introducing me to John Jordan.



# NORTH CAROLINA NEW FINDS

**Bob King**

The first new find is from Cleveland in Rowan County. Cleveland was named Cowansville until 1856 when it was changed to Rowan Mills. In 1884 the name was changed to Third Creek. In 1887 the name was changed to Cleveland.



**R.M. ROSEBRO & SON / 5 / CLEVELAND, N.C. //**  
**(BLANK) - RD AL 31 Rare**

R.M. Rosebro & Son are listed from 1910 through 1914 as a general store. R.M. Rosebro appears again in 1919 as cotton and fertilizer in Cleveland. Mr. Rosebro had a long lasting general store before his son joined him in 1910. Mr. Rosebro is first listed in 1879 as Lucky and Rosebro, a general store and sawmill at Third Creek. One would think the listing would be Rowan Mills but obviously the local people were calling this town Third Creek. In 1880 the listing is for Lucky, Rosebrough and Company, a general store. In 1881 the listing is for R.M. Rosebro and Company, a general store. This listing continues with various minor differences until his son joined the business in 1910.

Next a new find from Durham.



**→•← / B.D. BAKER / →•← / DURHAM, N.C. //**  
**GOOD FOR / 5¢ / IN MERCHANDISE – OVAL AL**  
**30 X 22 Rare**

Benjamin Dewey Baker was born in 1900 and by 1930 he owned a bakery in Sanford, NC. The bakery continued in Sanford through 1940. If one assumes he worked from 18 years of age he should have been in Durham sometime from 1918 until before 1930. Mr. Baker doesn't show on any NC Business Directories or Durham City Directories during this time. His business was probably on one of the rural routes out of the Durham Post Office. More research is forthcoming.

And finally a High Point piece that appears to be from the period 1890 to 1910.



**PRESCRIPTIONS A SPECIALTY, / (3 STARS) /**  
**MATTON'S / DRUG. (ORN) / (ORN) STORE, /**  
**HIGH POINT, N.C. / (3 STARS) // GOOD FOR A /**  
**(STAR) 5¢ (STAR) / DRINK AT / MATTON'S /**  
**FOUNTAIN. - RD AL 25 Rare**

George A. Matton owned a drug business from 1885 through 1932 listed as follows: 1885-1892 Brown & Matton, drugs; 1893-1906 George A. Matton, drugs; 1907-1932 Matton Drug Company

## NORTH CAROLINA TOKEN BOOK-STATUS

I apologize to those who are upset that I haven't finished the North Carolina Token Book. I want everyone to know that progress is being made daily and there are good reasons that it is not finished. Most important to me is that I haven't refused information on any token to anyone when requested and it is important for everyone to know that I never intended to do a book, so I wasn't prepared to complete one. When I started, my intention was to make a catalog/listing of all NC Tokens known to me and other collectors that would share their list. The more progress I made on the catalog the clearer it became to me that I wasn't proud of the book that would result. As time progressed I was ashamed of that effort and I started on my current effort to make a book that would give information on each token listed. Since this effort began I have spent over \$10,000.00 on research materials and over \$8000.00 on computer software and cameras. The good news is that I am very proud of the book as it stands and taking pictures of the tokens is in progress. I never promised to stop collecting in order to complete a book and I won't do that. So, the bottom line is that it is coming along well and nobody wants it completed more than me.

Bob King, 709 Cardinal Dr, Brevard, NC 28712 828-883-8028 [tokenaddict@citcom.net](mailto:tokenaddict@citcom.net)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### FOR SALE/TRADE

**ROY BYRD (ACCOMAC COUNTY, VA) 5 DIFFERENT CARDBOARD PICKER CHITS 1, 2, 5, 10 & 20 QUARTS.** \$10.00 & SASE. Insurance +\$ 1.65. Steven Kawalec Box 4281 Clifton, NJ 07012.

**FOR SALE OR TRADE: NEW, UNUSED COPY OF RULAU, STANDARD CATALOGUE OF UNITED STATES TOKENS: 1700-1900.** 4th edition/2004. 1,200 pages. Prefer to trade for an NC token in \$ 25-40 range. But will consider dollars. You pay book postage: \$ 4. Lamar Bland. [blandl@elon.edu](mailto:blandl@elon.edu) or 919-383-6514.

**FOR SALE: MILL OPERATIVE'S LIFELONG CAREER.** Group of seven employee service pins from Spindale Mills, Inc. of Spindale, NC. 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35 year lapel pins. Enameled and gold-filled. \$95.00 postpaid. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127 [chibbaro@mindspring.com](mailto:chibbaro@mindspring.com)

### WANTED

**WANT EVERYTHING FROM AMES, IA; BOONE, IA; MADRID, IA; VISALIA, CA; AND COLORADO.** John Kent, 6545 Northwind Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80918, (719) 534-0455, [tokent7@hotmail.com](mailto:tokent7@hotmail.com).

**WANT TO BUY YOUR TOKENS INCLUDING MAVERICKS.** One is fine with me. Give me a call or e-mail and I will send a stamped, self addressed mailer with a check. Bob King, 709 Cardinal Dr, Brevard, NC 28712 828-883-8028 [tokenaddict@citcom.net](mailto:tokenaddict@citcom.net)

**CARTS Membership and Dues:** Membership in CARTS is open to anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

**CARTSNEWS:** CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

**Advertising:** Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected.

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.